BA/BSc Liberal Arts and Sciences

Bright people.
Create the difference.
To see the path forward, take a step back.
At University College Groningen, we understand that complex global challenges cannot be addressed from a single perspective. It’s the reason our Liberal Arts and Sciences programme offers an interdisciplinary education, filled with collaborative project-based learning. And it’s why we give our students the freedom to design their own curriculum that suits their individual interests, skills and ambitions.

Taught entirely in English, our programme will allow you to explore the Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities. From here, you’ll have the option to study either two or three of these disciplines before choosing from one of five major directions. Through a series of real-world projects, you’ll see extensive development of your academic skills. The programme will prepare you for further study and careers in a variety of areas including business, governmental organisations, NGO’s, scientific research, the arts, and more.

Welcome message from the Dean

We’re proud to have developed our curriculum to meet the needs of motivated, broadly-oriented students who want to find solutions for the complex global challenges of our time.

Studying Liberal Arts and Sciences at UCG, you’ll use your imagination and creativity to explore new horizons in an environment that facilitates engagement with the broader community. And you’ll experience our unique combination of solid academic teaching and collaborative project-based learning.

We’re pleased to offer curious and engaged students from around the globe an international educational environment in one of Europe's happiest* and most dynamic student cities. With an open and solid Liberal Arts and Sciences curriculum, innovative teaching methods, and a vibrant academic and social community, you’re able to fully develop your potential, while making a meaningful contribution to the grand challenges we face today.

We look forward to welcoming you to Groningen.

Prof. Dr. Hans van Ees
Dean of University
College Groningen

*European Commission Research
Jacky Yuejie Wang >> Chinese
Studying at UCG allows me to explore numerous academic disciplines which has really broadened my horizons. For example, the world of mathematics becomes so vivid and interesting when combined with philosophy. I really enjoy seminars with my fellow students from various countries and religions - we exchange opinions based on our diverse backgrounds, and that's where you really learn about the world.

What will you study?

Year 1

In the first year you’ll follow a core programme of 30 credits. You’ll explore global challenges in a series of theme courses and projects, where you’ll learn to apply knowledge and creative approaches to complex problems. You’ll also study research methods, logic, math, and philosophy of science, whilst developing your academic communication and interpersonal skills.

The remainder of the programme is up to you to decide. You just need to make sure you attain 20 credits in one of the three major fields: Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities, and 10 credits outside your major field.

30 credits core programme:
- Global Challenges
- Research and Methodology
- Integrative projects and academic skills

30 credits - your choice:
Select two or three of the following:
- Sciences
- Social Sciences
- Humanities

You need to achieve 60 credits in each year of the degree
Year 2 and Year 3

In your second year, you’ll have the chance to study your major discipline (30 credits - see diagram below), an integrative project (15 credits), and a Research and Methodology programme (15 credits).

In your third and final year you’ll gain some international experience, which could include study abroad (30 credits). On top of this you’ll also study your major courses of choice (15 credits), and complete a Capstone Project (15 credits).

In addition to the five majors, there is the option to study a ‘free major’ meaning you can choose any combination of the courses on offer (courses listed are examples from a wider selection).
Project-based learning at UCG

Education at UCG centres around collaborative, project-based learning. Working in interdisciplinary teams, you’ll learn to integrate your academic knowledge and skills with creative approaches to the complex global challenges we face today.

Sample project: “Gaming the Energy Transition”

In a project addressing the global issue of the need for sustainable energy, UCG first year students collaborated with Masters students to design and implement a touch-table game.

In the game, a computer-simulated population of consumers choose energy providers, based on their preference for price, sustainability and their neighbours' behaviour.

Politicians can use taxes and subsidies to encourage the population to use sustainable energy in their homes and businesses. But, if the population becomes unhappy, they will not be re-elected so tensions rise when elections approach. The energy companies closely monitor the number and satisfaction of their clients. They will change their prices due to resource scarcity, while technology development may drive them to offer different energy sources ranging from coal and oil to solar and wind.

“Gaming the Energy Transition” demonstrates how complex sustainability challenges affect society on many levels and to develop effective solutions we need an interdisciplinary approach.

See more projects at: www.rug.nl/ucg/projects
Student life

Based in the centre of the amazing student city of Groningen, UCG will put you in the heart of a vibrant, diverse community of young people from all over the world. The city of 195,000 inhabitants is home to 50,000 students! There's a lively, fun atmosphere and it's a very safe place to live. UCG students live and study together, learning from each other's experiences and cultural backgrounds to develop a strong sense of community. This residential city campus is a key feature of University College Groningen, however students lead busy, active lives outside of UCG and are involved in a wide variety of activities including student associations, sports clubs, arts events, charities and part-time jobs, to name a few.

Examples:
- Live-in UCG accommodation
- Brand new study environment
- UCG Study Association Caerus
- ACLO sports centre
- Cultural activities at USVA

Cynthia Wieringa >> Dutch

Living and studying in the centre of Groningen is amazing and I do a lot outside of my studies. I'm involved with sports activities, I have a part-time job, and I'm the Chair of the UCG study association Caerus. So don't let anyone tell you UCs are bubbles. It's what you make of it.
Ready to apply?

UCG students can be described in five traits:
- You want to discover the solutions to real life problems
- You are inquisitive and curious
- You enjoy problem based, collaborative learning
- You want to develop your skills in multidisciplinary research
- You feel you are responsible for your own future

Entry Requirements:
Netherlands: VWO - Grade 7 overall
International Baccalaureate: IB Diploma - 32 points
UK: 3 x A-Level - Average grade B
Germany: Abitur 2 or higher
USA: 4 x AP tests

When you apply you need to demonstrate your motivation to study at UCG in a video or letter, and we'll ask you to provide evidence of proficiency in English and Mathematics. This can be done with your previous education background or with a test.

Admission:
You need to apply in Studielink and complete your online application. We review applications on a rolling basis and recommend you apply as soon as possible.

Tuition fees and average living costs:

<p>| | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition - EU</td>
<td>€4,000</td>
<td>€450</td>
<td>€60</td>
<td>€200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>year</td>
<td>month</td>
<td>month</td>
<td>month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition - Non EU</td>
<td>€12,000</td>
<td>€100</td>
<td>€80</td>
<td>€50-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>year</td>
<td>month</td>
<td>month</td>
<td>one off</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.rug.nl/ucg/apply
Discover more of UCG at an Open Day or as a Student for a Day, visit www.rug.nl/ucg

Hoendiepskade 23/24
9718 BG Groningen
The Netherlands
+31 (0) 50 363 3512

Social Media
Facebook / ucgroningen
Twitter / ucgroningen
Instagram / ucgroningen
YouTube / ucgroningen

Contact
www.rug.nl/ucg
ucg@rug.nl

Skype: university.college.groningen